

WASHINGTON POST, 2 Feb 66
Showdown at March Congress Seen

Kremlin Circulates Detailed Attack On Peking Policies to Party Groups

By Sidney Weiland

Reuters

MOSCOW, Feb. 1—Kremlin leaders were reported today to be circulating a detailed indictment of Communist China's policies to Communist Party groups, to prepare the Party for a possible showdown.

Communist sources said nationwide efforts were under way to prepare the Party's 12 million members for still graver disclosures when the Party holds its 23d national congress, which opens in Moscow March 29.

Within the last two weeks, a lengthy Kremlin letter on China has been circulated to all Party groups, down to borough units, the sources said.

Last week, five ruling Presidium members led by Party first secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev fanned out across Moscow to speak at borough-

level meetings. They included Alexander Shelepin, the Party secretary who visited North Vietnam three weeks ago.

The Kremlin letter drafted by the Party's Central Committee, has been read at crowded branch meetings. Communist sources said the recital of charges against China—many related to Vietnam—took about two hours.

The main charge was reported to be that Peking has now abandoned its 5-year-long ideological offensive against Moscow, and has gone over to direct attack in spheres affecting the Soviet Union as a nation.

Moscow observers said the circulation of the letter, itself an unusual step, indicated that Brezhnev and the Presidium had given up all hope of trying to reach an understanding with the Chinese.

According to some reports,

the letter accused China of attempted subversion, of staging border incidents, of a hostile press campaign and of flooding the Soviet Union with "tens of thousands" of anti-Soviet leaflets.

The report said Peking leaders were charged with obstructing Soviet military aid supplies sent through China to Hanoi, and of hindering a peaceful settlement in Vietnam by repeated allegations of Soviet-American collusion.

President Nikolai Podgorny was quoted by usually reliable sources as telling a Moscow Party meeting: "Only the situation in Vietnam prevents us from establishing really good relations with America."

There has been no way of confirming the reported contents of the letter, and Soviet officials and the government-controlled press have not mentioned it.